



Child Protection Policy

Harpenden Hockey Club is committed to creating and maintaining a safe and positive environment for all young people involved in hockey. It accepts its responsibility to help safeguard the welfare of all young people and protect them from poor practice, abuse and bullying.

This policy applies to any person acting on behalf of Harpenden Hockey Club. For the purposes of this policy a young person or child is defined as any person under the age of 18 years, and anyone over the age of 18 who may be vulnerable by nature of impairment or disability.

The Children's Act 1989 states that anyone who is involved in the care of children should: "do what is reasonable in the circumstances for the purpose of safeguarding or promoting the child's welfare".

Principles

Harpenden Hockey Club adopts the Safeguarding and Protecting Young People in Hockey policy proposed by England Hockey ([EH Safeguarding & Protection Policy](#)) which states that:

- The safety and welfare of young people is paramount.
- All young people, regardless of age, ability, sex, race, religion or belief, ethnic origin, social status or sexual orientation have the right to be protected from harm.
- The rights, dignity and worth of all young people should always be respected.
- Everyone with a role in working with young people has a moral and legal responsibility to safeguard and promote a child's welfare particularly when it comes to protecting children from abuse.
- Special care is needed in dealing with young people whose age, inexperience or physical state makes them particularly vulnerable to abuse.